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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7221
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
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RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY
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RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA PRIORITY
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 8364
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 1735
RUEHBKJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 4468
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1278
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RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 2182
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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION Q NORTH KOREA - TOKYO

LEAD STORIES: There were no newspapers published Monday morning because of a press holiday. The extra editions of Yomiuri, Asahi, and other national dailies gave top coverage to Monday's North Korean nuclear test. All broadcasters gave top play to the international response, including a telephone conversation between President Bush and PM Abe.

11. "North Korea's Nuclear Test Deals Blow to Nonproliferation Regime" The liberal Asahi wrote (10/10): "It is inevitable that North Korea's announcement Monday that it conducted a nuclear test will deal a serious blow to the nonproliferation regime centered on the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT). It is also expected to have a major impact on negotiations with Iran and other countries suspected of having nuclear ambitions.... Tehran is assuredly keeping a close watch on whether the international community will be able to join hands to deal with the current situation. If the international community splinters and is unable to take a proper response, this could demonstrate its powerlessness to stop nuclear proliferation.

12. "Japan May Advance Missile Defense Deployment" The top-circulation, moderate Yomiuri wrote (10/10): "The GOJ has a growing sense of crisis over Monday's North Korean nuclear test as a threat to the nation's security. Although it is believed that Pyongyang does not yet have the ability to load nuclear warheads on its missiles, it is certain that there will be rising calls in Japan for the nation to review its defense setup.... Pyongyang has already deployed some 200 intermediate-range Rodong missiles that have most of Japan in their range.... It is certain that the North will try to miniaturize nuclear weapons. Should Pyongyang export nuclear technology

before then, it is possible that nuclear weapons could fall into the hands of a third country or terrorists."

SCHIEFFER